



08-3101

RCE/2815\$

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PTO/SB/30 (8/2000)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995,  
See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/300,363
Filing Date	April 26, 1999
First Named Inventor	Philip J. Ireland
Group Art Unit	2815
Examiner Name	Matthew E. Warren
Attorney Docket Number	11675.99.1

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.  
**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of an RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE Practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

### a. ☐ Previously submitted

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Two-month extension of time

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 23-3178
  - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) **09/04/2001 RHWRI51 00000063 09300363**
  - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) **01 FC:179**
  - iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ **710.00 OP**
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ 1,100.00 enclosed
- c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)

Gregory M. Taylor

Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)

34,263

Signature

Date

8/29/01

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Name (Print / Type)

Signature

Date

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

Express Mail Label No. EL872629733US

PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No. 11675.99.1

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Philip J. Ireland et al.

Serial No.: 09/300,363

Filed: April 26, 1999

For: CONTACT STRUCTURE

Examiner: Matthew E. Warren

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11/B

9-13-01

T. Flowers

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Box RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 29, 2001, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 7.

Please amend the claims as follows: